



As snow and ice continue to melt, Congresswoman McCollum encourages all Minnesotans to be prepared for springtime flooding. Current forecasts for St. Paul call for high-level flooding, beginning in late March with the threat continuing through April. Items such as an emergency supply kit and a family emergency plan are just a few things you can do to get prepared.

Congresswoman McCollum has already assessed flood preparations being undertaken in Minnesota. In March, she toured, South Saint Paul, the Newport Levee, and the Minnesota Guard Cedar Avenue Armory.

Congresswoman McCollum's website, [e-newsletter](#) , and [Facebook page](#) will give Minnesotans all the resources and information they need to stay informed on the latest flooding developments. Feel free to check back here periodically for new information.

The [National Weather Service](#) has the latest information on flooding in the St. Paul area.

### **Latest update**

Mayor Chris Coleman's office issued a flood update dated Wednesday, March 23, 2011:

The current level of the river is 11.09 ft. Construction of the levee at Sibley and Jackson began

this past Monday, requiring Shepard Road - from Eagle Street to Highway 61 – to be closed. We expect the levee to be in place by this weekend. Shepard Road will remain closed until the water begins to recede.

Due to the closure, motorists are encouraged to use alternatives routes into downtown Saint Paul such as 35 and I-94.

Factoring in this week's precipitation, the flood forecast for Saint Paul is:

- Friday, March 25 – 14 ft. (Flood Stage)
- Saturday, March 26 – 16 ft. (Moderate Flood Stage)
- Sunday, March 27 – 19 ft. (Major Flood Stage)
- Tuesday, March 29 – 21 ft (Major Flood Stage)

Water Street – from Plato to Hwy. 13 – was closed this morning following rush hour. On Thursday evening, residents can expect to see a closure at 4th Street, between John Street and Commercial.

The following parks have been closed due to high water: Lilydale, Crosby, Hidden Falls North, Hidden Falls South, Desnoyer Trail and the DNR Fish Hatchery.

## **Flooding Preparation Resources**

[Emergency Supply Kit](#)

[Family Emergency Plan](#)

[Staying Informed](#)

[Flood Outreach Toolkit](#)

[What to Do](#)

[More Resources](#)

Congresswoman McCollum's St. Paul (651-224-9191) and Washington, DC (202-225-6631) offices can provide any further assistance.